

a motor having a rotatable shaft extending therefrom operatively connected to the damper; and

a control circuit which transmits a fireplace signal to open a gas valve to initiate combustion and to close a gas valve terminate combustion at the fireplace, and which receives a damper signal indicating whether the damper is in the closed position or the open position;

wherein when a fire is desired at the fireplace, the control circuit sends the fireplace signal to open the gas valve after receiving the damper signal indicating that the damper is in the open position; and

a status module comprising at least one indicator which indicates the status of whether the fireplace signal has been sent.

2. (Original) The damper control device of claim 1 wherein the fireplace is a gas fireplace and after the damper is in the open position the control circuit sends the fireplace signal to the fireplace to ignite gas at the gas fireplace.

3. (Original) The damper control device of claim 2 wherein the damper moves to the closed position at a predetermined time after the gas fireplace circuit has sent the fireplace signal to terminate combustion by shutting off the gas at the gas fireplace.

4. (Original) The damper control device of claim 1 wherein the damper is positioned near a top of the flue.

5. (Amended) A damper control device comprising, in combination:
a fireplace and a flue, wherein products of combustion from the fireplace enter the flue;
a damper positioned in a damper pipe operatively connected to the flue, wherein the damper is movable between a closed position where the damper pipe is blocked and an open position;
a motor having a rotatable shaft extending therefrom operatively connected to the damper; and
a control circuit which transmits a fireplace signal to open a gas valve to initiate combustion and to close a gas valve terminate combustion at the fireplace, and which receives a damper signal indicating whether the damper is in the closed position or the open position;
wherein when a fire is desired at the fireplace, the control circuit sends the fireplace signal to open the gas valve after receiving the damper signal indicating that the damper is in the open position; and
a status module comprising [The damper control device of claim 1 further comprising a status module comprising at least one of indicators and] a manually operated service switch to send a signal to hold the damper in the open position.

6. (Amended) The damper control device of claim 5 wherein [each] the status module has an indicator which indicates the status of one of: whether the damper signal indicates the damper is in the open position or the closed position; whether the fireplace signal has been sent; and whether the damper control device has power.

7. (Original) The damper control device of claim 1 wherein the control circuit sends a signal to hold the damper in the open position in response to predetermined criteria comprising at least one of heat, carbon dioxide concentration, and carbon monoxide concentration.

8. (Amended) A damper control device comprising, in combination:

- a damper pipe adapted to be connected to a flue and receive products of combustion;
- a damper positioned in the damper pipe and movable between a closed position and an open position;
- a motor having a rotatable shaft extending therefrom operatively connected to the damper, wherein the motor is housed in a damper control box remote from the products of combustion;
- a control circuit which controls the motor to rotate the shaft and in turn rotate the damper to the closed position and to the open position; and

a mounting member, wherein the mounting member is a plate extending generally perpendicularly from the damper pipe and is adapted to connect to a chimney.

9. (Original) The damper control device of claim 8 further comprising mounting brackets affixed to the mounting member and adapted to connect to the chimney.

10. (Amended) The damper control device of claim 8 wherein a projection of the damper pipe extends past the mounting [ring] member and is adapted to enter the flue.

[11. (Cancelled) The damper control device of claim 8 wherein the motor is housed in a damper control box remote from the damper.]

12. (Amended) The damper control device of claim [11] 8 wherein the shaft extends from the damper control box to the damper pipe and is at least partially enclosed by a shroud.

13. (Original) The damper control device of claim 12 wherein the shroud is provided with ventilating holes.